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AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER					Docket No. 29171/36823A
Application No.		Filing Date Exa		Examiner	Art Un
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an envelope addressed to: MS Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: December 31, 2003

(Mark H. Hopkins, Ph.D.)



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING
I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service First Class Mail in an envelope, postal
prepaid, addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on December 31, 2003.
Mark H. Hopkins, Ph.D.

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111

MS Amendment

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action of October 2, 2003 in which all elected claims (1-7, 18-25, 29, 30, and 37-39) stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §§ 101, 103(a) and 112, second paragraph. Reconsideration of the rejection is solicited for the reasons set out below. This response is timely filed before January 2, 2004.

Please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8 of this paper.